



## Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

28 August 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: August 19, 2003

### Analysis

The feature that is likely the *K. brevis* bloom off Cedar Key has moved northwest and is now almost due west of Cedar Key at about 84W. Chlorophyll concentrations have diminished in that area.

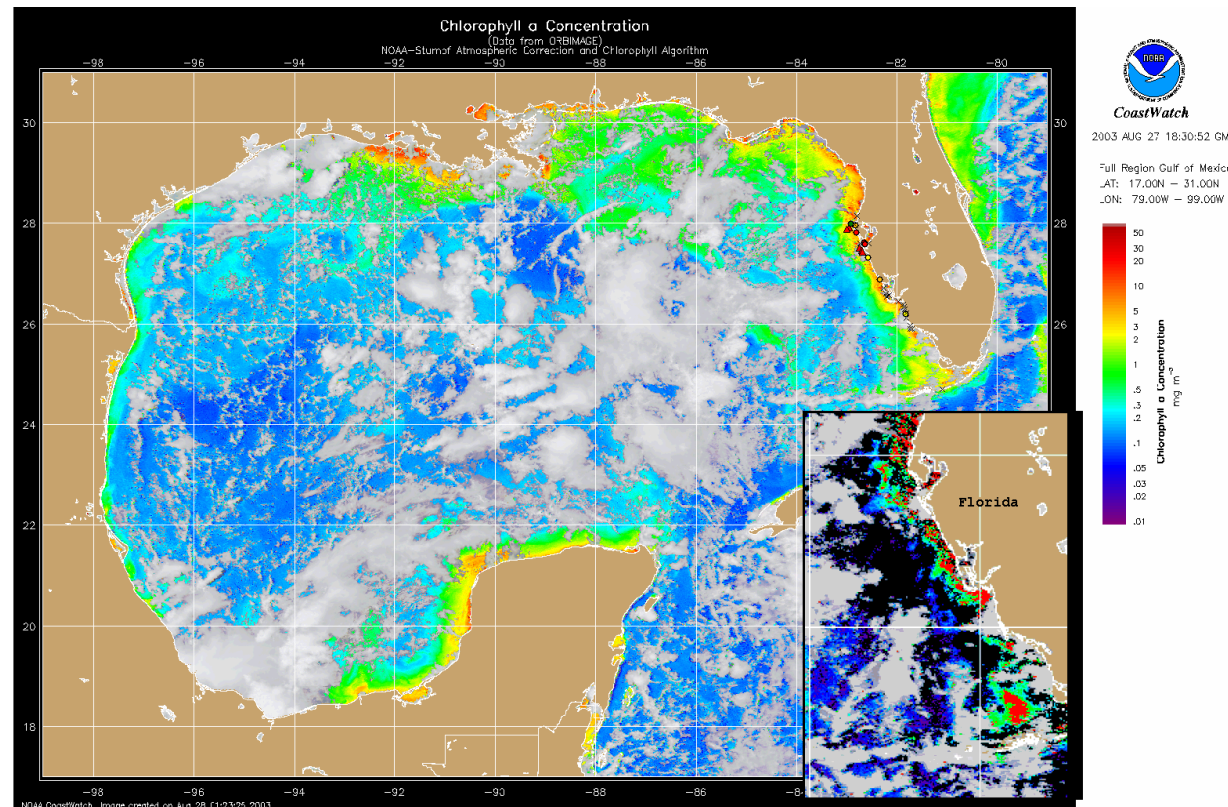
Patchy features along the coast. The bloom near Boca Grande/Gasparilla is likely *K. brevis*, based on FMRI cell counts. A mixed bloom is likely due south of Sanibel.

A bloom has been present several miles north of the Pine Keys (81.5W from about 24.8W to 25.4N) for over a week. Chlorophyll has varied from 2.5-5 ug/L.

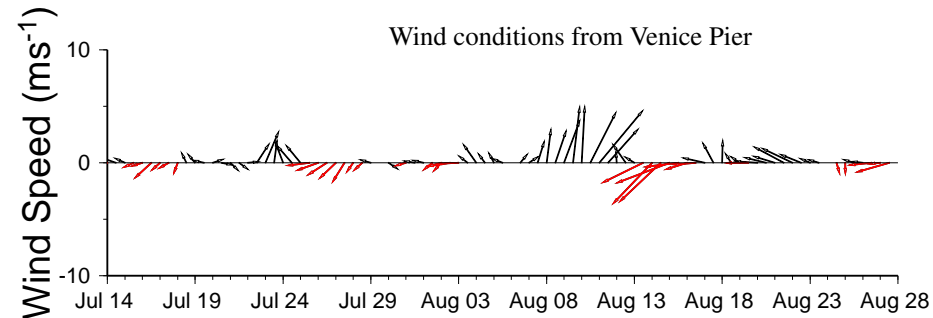
The plume from the Mississippi River area being carried by the Loop Current has moved south and now impacts only the southwestern edge of the Piney Point disposal area. Movements in the Loop Current (including development of a Tortugas gyre) have disrupted the apparent flow of this material to the Keys. This material is likely to reach the Keys in the next few days (chlorophyll < 0.3 ug/L). We do not expect a significant change in the Keys water clarity. Elevated chlorophyll along the Keys, may be upwelling-induced, or a residual from the previous incursion of water from the Gulf of Mexico. --Stumpf

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Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from August 21, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Forecast of southeast to easterly winds through Labor Day. Weak upwelling, but no impacts at the beach expected.

